

# Tennessee Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Training and Certification Program

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# Tennessee Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Training and Certification Program

- Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Water Pollution Control
- Tennessee Department of Transportation
- In Cooperation with The University of Tennessee
  - Tennessee Water Resources Research Center
  - Biosystems Engineering & Environmental Science
  - Transportation Center





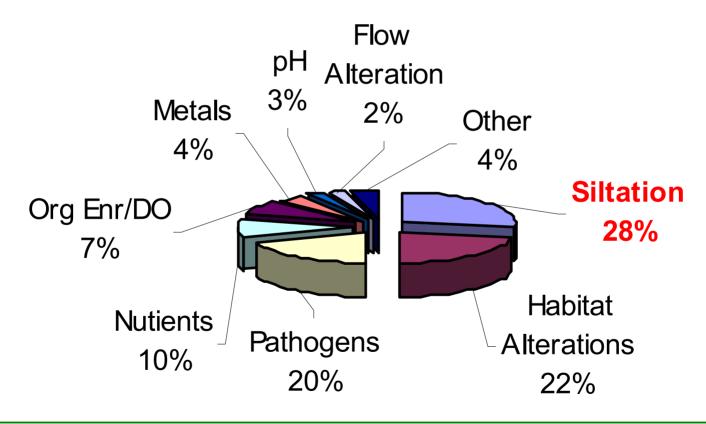
# Are silt and suspended solids a problem in Tennessee?







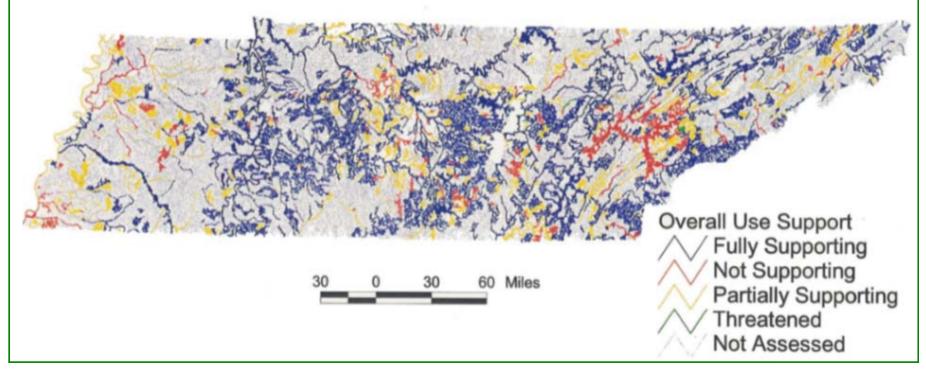
According to the State's 2000 305(b) water quality report, siltation is the largest cause of impairment to water quality in Tennessee streams.







# Siltation effects currently impact 4,163.5 stream miles and 2,686 lake acres in Tennessee.







### Construction activities are a major source silt.







### State Regulatory Issues

- Tennessee must be in compliance with the 1990 EPA's NPDES rule that requires a wide range of industrial activities to obtain permits to discharge storm water runoff
- This includes construction activities





# Tennessee General Permit No. TNR10 Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activities

- Permit authorizes discharge of storm water from construction activities defined as follows:
  - construction activity including clearing, grading, and excavation activities except: operations that result in the disturbance of less than five acres of total land area and which are not part of a larger common plan of development or sale





## **Local Regulatory Information**

- Cities under Phase I NPDES
  - Memphis, Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville
  - have additional regulation for water pollution control and discharges from construction sites

- Eighty cities and counties will be affected by Phase II
  - March 2003
  - \_\_\_ including several University Campuses



## Compliance with this Permit has been Poor

- Education rather than a Big Stick
  - Contractors, developers,
     landowners, site workers,
     real estate agents
  - Each need a basic understanding of stormwater management
    - quantity and quality







## **Engineers & Permit Compliance**

- Engineers should have already been trained in this topic
  - but there are many design and communication problems







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### **EPSC Program Objectives**

- Develop a training program that will establish standards of practice for design, installation, and maintenance of erosion prevention and sediment controls at construction sites
  - Revise Tennessee Sediment & Erosion Handbook
  - Level I Fundamentals Course
  - Level II Design Principles Course





### New Handbook

#### **TENNESSEE**

# EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL HANDBOOK

A Guide for Protection of State Waters through Effective Management Practices during Construction Activities







## "Tennessee Sediment and Erosion Handbook"

- Has been updated to include the most effective vegetative and structural sediment and erosion controls,
- Shall be used as core material for the "Tennessee Erosion and Sediment Control Training & Certification Program."





#### The Fundamentals Course:

Is intended for individuals involved in land disturbing activities:

- Developers and Contractors,
- Inspection and enforcement personnel,
- Plan preparers and reviewers,
- Designers and engineers.





#### The Fundamentals Course:

Is a one day foundation-building course which aims to build a solid working knowledge of erosion and sedimentation processes and practices.





# Fundamentals of Erosion Prevention & Sediment Control on Construction Sites

**Local Regulatory Perspective** 

State Regulatory Perspective

Surface Hydrology - Rainfall and Runoff

Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Process

Implementing a Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan

Developing a SWPPP

**Exit Exam** 





## Program Accomplishments

#### Training Outcomes – Level I Fundamentals

- Conducted at 25 locations across state since June, 2001
- Over 1500 persons have received training and certification

#### Regulatory Changes

- Metro Nashville & the City of Franklin require certification training before local sediment & erosion control permits will be issued
- Other municipalities soon to follow





## Level II: Design Principles for Erosion Prevention & Sediment Control for Construction Sites

 Intended for engineers, environmental planners, plan designers, reviewers & other professionals involved in site design.

 Class content covering engineering technology needed to design a controlled construction site





# Level II: Design Principles for Erosion Prevention & Sediment Control for Construction Sites

- Surface Hydrology Rainfall & Runoff
- Runoff Estimation Methodologies
  - Rational Method
  - Curve Number Method
  - TR55
- Open Channel Flow & Design
- Soil Characteristics & Soil Erosion Prediction
  - Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation (RUSLE1.06b)
- Sedimentation Principles & Sediment Transport
- Compiling a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan



## **EPSC Program: Next Steps**

- Develop Sediment & Erosion Control Field Guide
- Design of Sediment & Erosion Control Inspectors Course
- Install Best Management Practice Demonstration Sites
- Develop half-day BMP-specific courses





### **Questions and Comments?**

## Agricultural Extension Service The University of Tennessee



